

THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP AND
THE STEP ONE CONFERENCE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, January 6, 2001

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, today I speak not only as a member of the House of Representatives, but as a proud member of a very important organization that is making a difference in my district. The Science and Technology Education Partnership (STEP) was recently established to inspire students to pursue careers in science, math, engineering and technology throughout the Riverside community, the state of California and the nation.

On November 3, 2000, STEP sponsored "STEP One: The Congressional Conference on Science and Technology Education." This wonderful conference allowed local students, teachers, community and civic leaders, scientists and high-tech entrepreneurs an opportunity to meet and discover the importance of math and science education.

It was inspiring to see the faces of nearly 1,000 students light up with excitement during the conference's student program which included NASA Astronaut Vance Brand, chemical experiments and a 'life in space' space science presentation.

I was honored to present National Teachers Hall of Fame inductee, Jaime Escalante, with the inaugural STEP Award. The panel discussion focusing on the gap between math and science education and the needs of the high-tech sector was an enlightening finale to the conference.

On behalf of everyone involved in the STEP Conference, I would like to give a special thanks to those who sponsored the event including: Complas, The Business-Press, Bourns, DynCorp, Naval Warfare Assessment Station, General Atomics, California Space and Technology Alliance, The Gas Company and Vertigo.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to give praise to those who volunteered their time and energy to get the STEP foundation up and running. My fellow board members of the STEP foundation have all greatly contributed to this effort, they include: Steve Berry, Dave Bernal, Linda Burk, Dr. Damon Castillo, Troy Clarke, Dr. James Erickson, Dr. Susan Hackwood, Dr. Joseph Norbeck and Brian Wagner.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2001 CON-
GRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT
EXCHANGE

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, January 6, 2001

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat has conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and interact on issues of mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress will be selected to visit Germany

during April 1 to April 15 of this year. During the two week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag Members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Participants also will be hosted by a Bundestag Member for a district visit.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for two weeks in July. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of Congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district in July, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants are selected by a committee composed of personnel from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Connie Veillette in Congressman REGULA's office, 2306 Rayburn House Building by noon on Thursday, February 15.

IN TRIBUTE TO DAVID E. NESBITT

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, January 6, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to David E. Nesbitt, a personal friend who has retired from the Federal Bureau of Investigation after 31 years of dedicated service, the last 2½ of which he served as supervisor of the Ventura Resident Agency, in my district.

Supervisory Special Agent Nesbitt became a special agent in 1969 and was assigned to San Antonio and Austin, Texas. At the end of 1970, he was transferred to the Los Angeles Field Office, where he handled a variety of white collar crime investigations for much of the next 10 years.

In 1980, he was assigned to the San Fernando Valley Resident Agency, where he specialized in major financial institution fraud investigations. He then returned to the Los Angeles Field Office in 1985 to join the Financial Institution Fraud Squad.

David's success in bringing white collar criminals to justice was rewarded in 1990, when he was promoted to supervise a new squad designed to handle investigations into failed financial institutions. During the next eight years, David coordinated investigations into more than 130 financial institutions that failed within the Central District of California.

In June of 1998, he arrived in Ventura County. As supervisor of the Ventura Resident Agency, David initiated a new Ventura County Crime Task Force composed of nine federal, state and local agencies. He coordinated the FBI portion of the investigation into the January 31, 2000, tragic crash of Alaska Airlines Flight 261 off the Ventura County coast.

David is a longstanding member of the Southern California Fraud Investigators Association and a contributor to the Western League of Savings Annual Training Seminar. He initiated the annual FBI Fraud Seminar to benefit the financial community and, last year, was recognized as the Construction Battalion Center Summerfest 2000 Honoree for Community Service.

There is one aspect of David's life to which he has devoted more years than to the FBI—his marriage to Larane. David and Larane married in September of 1967. They are the proud parents of four adult children: twins Amy and David; Lara; and Shannon.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in thanking David for more than three decades of service dedicated to protecting our neighbors, and in wishing him and his family many joyous years ahead.

SALUTE TO FIREFIGHTER STEVE
HALL

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, January 6, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute Steve Hall, the Montclair Fire Department Firefighter of the Year.

Our brave firefighters do a hero's work, exposing themselves to danger, in acts of selfless heroism.

Steve was nominated by his peers for his exemplary work, both within and outside the Department. Steve has been employed by the Montclair Fire Department for 22 years, presently holding the rank of Firefighter, and a certification to act as a Fire Engineer.

Steve has been involved in a number of volunteer efforts. This past summer, Steve served on a mission to Thailand, to aid the victims of land mines and military conflict. When Steve was in the Army, over 22 years ago, he worked in an orthopedic shop making prosthetic limbs. Steve contacted a former